

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 CIAE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /092 W  
-----003916 071313Z /46

R 071044Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7404  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USNMR SHAPE BEL  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0621

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC; USCINCEUR AND USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, CY  
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES KYPRIANOU SPEECH

REF: NICOSIA 0559

1. ON MARCH 3, FONMIN DIRGEN PELAGHIAS TELEPHONED DCM TO ASK  
WHETHER EMBASSY HAD ANY COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S SPEECH  
AT FEB 28 INVESTITURE CEREMONY. PELAGHIAS SEEMED SLIGHTLY HURT  
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THAT EMBASSY HAD NOT REACTED TO HIM OR OTHER MINISTRY OFFICIALS.

2. IN RESPONSE THIS CONCERN, DCM CALLED ON PELAGHIAS LATER SAME  
DAY. OUR ANALYSIS OF KYPRIANOU SPEECH AS GIVEN TO PELAGHIAS IS  
AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THE SPEECH WAS CLEARLY INTENDED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO A NUMBER  
OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INTERESTS. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU MENTIONED

HIS SUPPORT FOR FREE ENTERPRISE BUT ALSO RECOGNIZED THE CONTINUING IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT, THEREBY GIVING ASSURANCE TO TWO IMPORTANT GROUPS. THE TREATMENT OF THE PURGE APPEARED TO BE INTENDED TO ASSURE RIGHT WING THAT GOAL OF THE GOC IS UNITY. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE WAS AN INDICATION THAT PURGE ACTION WILL BE COMPLETED SOON, A POINT THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO ASSURE THE LEFT THAT HARSH ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST LEADING PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE COUP. ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT, WE OBSERVED A SIMILAR ATTEMPT AT BALANCE WITH MENTION OF WEST, EAST AND NONALIGNED. WITH THIS "ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN" APPROACH, SPEECH WAS NOT INNOVATIVE, BUT BASICALLY A RESTATEMENT OF EXISTING GOC POLICY.

(B) IN THE CASE OF THE EFFORT TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, WE READ THE SPEECH TO IMPLY THAT THE EAST CONTRIBUTED AS MUCH DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT AS THE WEST. WE DO NOT THINK THIS IS TRUE. THE SOVIET UNION HAS NOT MADE ANY EFFORT TO ASSIST IN A MEANINGFUL SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

(C) THE SPEECH WAS EVEN MORE TROUBLESOME TO US IN DEALING WITH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY THE VARIOUS PARTIES. WHILE IT WAS GRATIFYING TO SEE A REFERENCE TO THE "REMARKABLE" AMOUNT OF U.S. ASSISTANCE, IT IS NOT GOOD ECONOMICS TO EQUATE THAT MAJOR CONTRIBUTION WITH "ABSORPTION" OF CYPRUS PRODUCTS BY THE SOVIET UNION. THE SPEECH ALSO STATED THAT GREECE WAS THE LARGEST SINGLE DONOR. WE HAD CALCULATED OUR OWN OVERALL ASSISTANCE SINCE 1974 AT APPROXIMATELY 169 MILLION DOLLARS WHICH WE THOUGHT WAS PROBABLY THE GREATEST OF ANY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY. (SPEECH MAY HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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BEEN CORRECT ON THIS POINT. SUBSEQUENT RESEARCH INDICATES GOG COULD CLAIM TO HAVE GIVEN ABOUT \$200 MILLION TO CYPRUS SINCE 1974, MOSTLY IN GRANTS.)

(D) IN ITS APPROACH TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, THE SPEECH WAS HARSH. IT DID NOT CONTAIN THE HELPFUL EDUCATIONAL ELEMENTS WHICH CHARACTERIZED MAKARIOS' SPEECHES JUST BEFORE HE DIED.

3. PELAGHIAS RESPONDED TO ALL OUR POINTS. ON THE EAST-WEST BALANCE HE WANTED US TO KNOW THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR ASTAVIN HAD "COMPLAINED BITTERLY" THAT KYPRIANOU HAD SAID THE SOVIET UNION "COULD DO MORE" TO ASSIST IN THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. ASTAVIN HAD POINTED TO THE CONSISTENT SOVIET SUPPORT TO GOC INTERNATIONAL BODIES AS EVIDENCE THAT USSR COULD NOT DO MORE. ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT, SOVIET AMBASSADOR COMPLAINED THAT KYPRIANOU DID NOT NOTE CYPRUS SOLD TO THE SOVIET ONLY THOSE PRODUCTS THAT COULD NOT BE SOLD ELSEWHERE, ITEMS WHICH ARE BASICALLY REJECTS OF THE WEST. PELAGHIAS SAID COMPLAINTS BY BOTH USSR AND U.S. INDICATE THAT THE SPEECH DID ACHIEVE THE BALANCE GOC SOUGHT. PELAGHIAS CONCEDED THAT ON THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS THE SPEECH WAS HARSH BUT HE HOPED THAT "ON BALANCE" WE AGREED IT WAS "CONSTRUCTIVE."

4. COMMENT: WE WERE AMUSED AND SURPRISED BY PELAGHIAS' DEMARCHE.

WE HAD NOT PLANNED TO COMMENT FORMALLY ON THE KYPRIANOU SPEECH  
AND ASIDE FROM PELAGHIAS' DIRECT REQUEST, DO NOT SEE ANY GOOD  
REASON FOR DOING SO. THE INCIDENT ILLUSTRATES HOW MUCH WEIGHT  
THE CYPRIOTS GIVE TO PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND HOW CONCERNED THEY ARE  
THAT THEIR PRONOUNCEMENTS HAVE THE INTENDED EFFECT.  
CRAWFORD

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